

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01727 080849Z

17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 IO-11

SAJ-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /064 W

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O 080836Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5889

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, KS

SUBJECT: KIM TAE-CHUNG AND CHONG IL-NYON TAKEN INTO CUSTODY

REF: SEOUL 1681

1. TWO OF THREE POLITICAL FIGURES INVOLVED IN MARCH 1, INDEPENDENCE DAY AFFAIR, KIM TAE-CHUNG (AND WIFE) AND NDP ASSEMBLYMAN CHONG IL-HYON WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY FOR QUESTIONING BY AUTHORITIES AFTERNOON OF MARCH 8. AT THE TIME OF THIS WRITING THIRD POLITICAL FIGURE FORMER PRESIDENT YUN PO-SON, HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN INTO CUSTODY.

2. ACCORDING TO GROUP OF JAPANESE NEWSMEN WHO WITNESSED THE SCENE AS WELL AS KIM TAE-CHUNG'S PRESS SECRETARY WHO WAS PRESENT, CHIEF OF MAPO POLICE STATION AND TEN PLAINCLOTHESMEN APPEARED AT THE KIM RESIDENCE AT 1:20 INFORMED KIM AND HIS WIFE THAT THEY WERE BEING TAKEN IN FOR QUESTIONING AND ESCORTED THEM TO THE CAR. A FEW MINUTES THEREAFTER, A SECOND GROUP OF PLAINCLOTHESMEN APPEARED AND THOROUGHLY SEARCHED THE HOUSE AFTER CORDONING OFF AREA. KIM'S PERSONAL SECRETARY WAS ALSO PICKED UP AT HIS HOME AT SIX A.M. THIS MORNING.

3. NDP ASSEMBLY MEMBER DR. CHONG IL-HYON WAS TAKEN INTO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CUSTODY AT HIS HOME AT APPROXIMATELY 4:00 P.M., FOLLOWING

EXTENSIVE SEARCH OF HOUSE BY TWENTY OR SO POLICEMEN.

4. AP HAS FILED STORY OF KIM'S DETENTION AND ALSO NDP
SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT THAT PARTY WOULD BACK POLITICAL
AND LEGAL STRUGGLES OF THOSE WHO HAD BEEN ARRESTED FOR
SIGNING STATEMENT AND WOULD ALSO TAKE UP MATTER AT SPECIAL
ASSEMBLY SESSION SLATED TO BEGIN MARCH 12.
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